

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EA: WHSULLIVAN: MS

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APPROVED BY EA: WHSULLIVAN

S/ S - MR. BARNES

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R 160022 Z MAR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

USDEL FRANCE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 048643

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, JA, VN, VS

SUBJ: JAPANESE RECOGNITION OF PRG

1. JAPANESE MINISTER YAMAZAKI TOLD SULLIVAN MARCH 25 THAT DRV IS ATTEMPTING EXPLOIT JAPANESE INTEREST IN AID MISSION TO HANOI IN ORDER EXTRACT GOJ RECOGNITION OF PRG. ACCORDING TO YAMAZAKI, JAPANESE AMBASSADOR IN PARIS APPROACHED DRV DEL THERE IN ORDER OBTAIN READING ON PROPOSED MIYAKE VISIT. DRV INDICATED THAT VISIT WOULD BE GREATLY FACILITATED IF GOJ RECOGNIZED PRG.

2. SULLIVAN SAID HE ASSUMED GOJ WOULD REJECT ANY SUCH BLACKMAIL OUT OF HAND. HE POINTED OUT PRG LACK OF QUALIFICATIONS AS A GOVERNMENT AND SAID HE WAS AMAZED AT ARROGANCE OF MENDICANT DRV REGIME WHICH WISHED OBTAIN " TEA MONEY" FROM JAPAN FOR ACCORDING LATTER " PRIVILEGE" OF GIVING IT ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE.

3. YAMAZAKI PLEADED STOUT GOJ POLICY RE PRG, BUT THEN WENT ON TO SUGGEST GOJ MIGHT HAVE DIFFICULTIES GIVING AID TO
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GVN UNLESS PRG SOMEHOW EMBRACED IN " POLITICAL ACCOMMODATION". AGAIN, SULLIVAN LANDED HARD, SAYING THAT PRG WOULD PROBABLY SABOTAGE ALL EFFORTS FOR EARLY ELECTIONS, AND THEREFORE WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR KEEPING ITSELF OUTSIDE ANY " POLITICAL ACCOMMODATION". HE SAID IT WOULD BE SCANDALOUS FOR PRG TO BE ABLE NOT ONLY TO BLOCK A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, BUT, BEYOND THAT, TO BE ABLE TO USE THE FACT OF ITS BLOCKAGE TO BLACKMAIL GOVERNMENTS INTO HOLDING UP AID TO GVN.

4. YAMAZAKI MADE LESS THAN CONVINCING NOISES, SAYING THAT GOJ WOULD NOT BE FOOLED AS TO THE TRUE FACTS, BUT JAPANESE DIET AND PUBLIC OPINION MIGHT BE. SULLIVAN SAID USG WOULD HARDLY FIND THAT CONVINCING. ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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